

REMARKS

Please enter the above-captioned Preliminary Amendment before examining the application.

The specification was objected to for purportedly not containing an abstract. However, the July 8, 2003 response included an Abstract of the Disclosure as part of the Appendix, and page 9 of the response expressly requested entry of the Abstract. Accordingly, Applicants again request entry of the previously submitted Abstract, and request that entry of the Abstract be confirmed.

Claims 25 and 27-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Eastty et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,359,636) in view of LeBrat et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,339,166). Claims 11-16 and 19-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Eastty et al. in view of Bergman et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,859,631). Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Eastty et al. and Bergman et al. in view of Silfvast (U.S. Pat. No. 5,959,610). Claim 18 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Eastty et al. and Bergman et al. in view of Jaeger (U.S. Pat. No. 5,786,811).

None of the references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest at least the feature of “at least two elements structured and arranged for allowing the simultaneous adjustment of at least two of the values displayed on the screen,” as recited in amended claim 11. Nor do any of the references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest at least the feature of “an operating surface comprising at least two operating elements structured and arranged to simultaneous set at least two values related to at least one of a configuration for processing audio signals and parameters for the processing of the audio signals,” as recited in amended claim 25. The remaining claims depend from either claim 11 or claim 25. Therefore, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectively request reconsideration and allowance of the claims.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if it would expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Vincent J. Gnoffo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

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